THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected from the Indian Missions and Posts abroad and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Indians abroad without legal documents

1950. SHRI TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) the total number of Indians living in different countries without legal documents, such as Indian passports or citizenship of that country; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to help them to get Indian passports or to help them to get citizenship of that country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected from the Indian Missions and Posts abroad and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Unemployment in the country

†1951. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nine million people were unemployed in the country during 1999-2000;

(b) if so, the estimated number of unemployed during the year 2005;

(c) whether it is also a fact that unemployment in the country is increasing due to less creation of employment opportunities;

(d) if so, whether Government have given any suggestions for increasing creation of employment opportunities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) The unemployment figure of around 9 million is estimated on usual status basis as per the employment and unemployment survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000. Inadequate growth of the economy, growth rate of labour force being higher than that of work force are among the major reasons for t*he* increasing unemployment during 1993-94 to 1999-2000. Estimates beyond 2000 are not available.

(d) and (e) Government is targeting creation of around 5 crore employment opportunities during the 10th plan period. The approach to Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan has laid emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors, which are likely to create high quality employment opportunities and deal with the policy constraints, which discourage growth of employment. Particular attention has been paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activitites, which have a large employment potential.

Enforcement of Trade Union Act in Sikkim

1952. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1510 given in Rajya Sabha on the 16th December 2004 and state:

(a) whether the Trade Union Act, 1926 extends to all States of India;

(b) if so, under which provisions of the Act, Sikkim has been excluded from the coverage of this Act; and

(c) if not, the action taken by Government to extend and enforce the Act in Sikkim?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Trade Unions Act, 1926 extends to the whole of India.

(b) and (c) Keeping in view the present scenario of industrial climate